GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1039
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
GUIDELINES ON ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGY
Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines provided by the Indian Council of Medical Research on Assisted Reproductive Technology; and

(b) the details of monitoring mechanism to ensure implementation of these guidelines?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has developed National Guidelines for Accreditation, Supervision and Regulation of Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Clinics in India which have been accepted by the Government. These guidelines have been circulated to all the States by the Department of Family Welfare, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India with the request to follow them in their States. However, to implement these Guidelines in the country, the Govt. of India also requested ICMR to develop an ART Bill. The Council has developed a Draft ART Bill, which also includes the issue of surrogate mother and is under experts' evaluation.

A State Accreditation Authority will be set up by the State Governments through its Departments of Health and/or Family Welfare to oversee all policy matters relating to Accreditation, Supervision and Regulation of ART Clinics in the States in accordance with the National Guidelines. Also, a National Advisory Committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will be set up to advise the Central Government on Policy matters relating to regulation of ART clinics.